

(continued from page 2)

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Sisterhood of Erin
Sisters of St. Joseph
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St. Michael Church RCIA Group
St. Bartholomew Church
St. John's Episcopal Church
St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Sts. Peter & Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
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2017 YEAR IN REVIEW

Serving the less fortunate among us for 35 years

Our Mantra at Prince of Peace Center: Listen, Assess, Instruct, Act, Advocate

On behalf of our staff and Board members at Prince of Peace Center, I am pleased to share this short Annual Report detailing the program activities offered to our neighbors in need during 2017.



For nearly 35 years the Center has served as a trusted conduit between those who enjoy excess resources which they offer to be shared, and those who could best benefit from those same resources. The work of our 17 staff members and approximately 200 volunteers yearly has never been complicated; it remains fair, committed, compassionate and reliably dependable. We simply meet the person with expressed needs, then listen, assess, instruct, act, and advocate. Our mission is to assist the struggling family to gain stabilization and then to aid it to assume roles within the community that had been lost or forfeited during the fall into all-consuming poverty.

As a Catholic Charities affiliate of the Diocese of Erie, we are blessed with their financial support, which covers 25% of our operational expenses. However, as we do not charge for any service, and have very limited programming that gains any reimbursement through government funds, we remain dependent upon grant writing, fundraising, and donations to make up the remaining 75%. We are so very appreciative of all those who join the ranks of donors. You can find the names of these supportive individuals, schools, groups and businesses within this report. Thank you donors!

In response to changes in program emphasis established by HUD, we terminated our transitional housing program (Project RUTH) in April 2017 after 17 successful years of operation. However, the loss permitted us to better focus upon a section of the local population that is often overlooked: young men and fathers. In May, we initiated the Fathers Accepting Inspiration while Transitioning to Hope program (F.A.I.T.H.) to address that need and to best utilize our resources to most effectively sponsor change.

Finally, I invite you to join us on Thursday, September 6, 2018 at the Avalon at Buhl Golf and Country Club as we formally commemorate 35 years of operation. We all have so much to celebrate.

*Joe Flecher,
Executive Director, Prince of Peace Center*



Prince of Peace Center provided 150 children with educational services along with meals and snacks in 2017.



Nearly 800 area residents received community social services assistance from POPC last year.



Non-Profit Organization
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A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Donors and Benefactors in 2017

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 Bert Rogers

Prince of Peace Center Activity Report 2017

Twice-Weekly Soup Kitchen



6,346

Meals Served

Hot meals are provided Monday and Wednesday evenings throughout the year, as well as meals for various other occasions.

Emergency Services & AWESOME Program



900

People Served

The center assists those with rent, utilities, food, furniture and healthcare emergencies, and offers classes to help people get back on their feet and be productive.

Monthly Food Pantry



21,418

Food Bags Provided

Food bags are distributed to people in need on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Center. Food bags also are delivered to handicapped senior citizens monthly.

Family Supportive Services



96

People Served

HOPE serves women and children, single women, and couples. FAITH focuses on men with or without children. Both programs encourage stable homes and families, reaching important life goals, self sufficiency, and finding support in the community.

Summer Programming



2,789

Meals Served

The Summer Food Program and Block Parties provide nutritious meals and fun activities for area youth and adults at eight sites in Farrell, Sharon, and Hermitage during the summer months.

Mission Thrift Store



2,778

Customers Served

The Mission Thrift Store provides access to essentials for anyone in need at a very low cost. All items for sale in the store are donated by our generous community members.